

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Italy

DATE DISTR. 21 APR 1949

SUBJECT Partito Comunista Italiano (PCI)
Anti-Intellectual Campaign

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DATE OF

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X
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1. In accordance with instructions recently received from Moscow, the PCI has reportedly commenced a campaign aimed at:
 - a. the realization of a more orthodox attitude toward the working classes; and
 - b. the replacement of intellectuals who occupy executive positions in the Party.
2. The campaign against intellectuals is particularly strong in Emilia where the Communist movement has reached a state of "great efficiency".
3. Italian painters and sculptors of the modernistic school have been a target of this campaign which is supported by PCI leaders Palmiro Togliatti, Giancarlo Pajetta, Luigi Longo and Giuseppe Di Vittorio.
4. As a result of PCI pressure on artists of the modernistic school, the group has split into the following two factions:
 - a. The "Cominform" group, headed by Renato Guttuso, Pietro Consagra, (fnu) Vespignani and the art critic Antonello Trombadori; and
 - b. The other group composed of Afro Basaldella, the sculptor Mirco Basaldella (brother of Afro) and the painters (fnu) Pizzinato and (fnu) Marloti, who have renounced their PCI membership and have refused to pay the usual contributions.

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